CLAIMS

We claim:

1. A back-end data routing method, comprising:

receiving a request for a first item from a requestor;

identifying a back-end system from a set of back-end systems for processing the request, wherein the back-end system is identified based on the first item and a location setting within a profile corresponding to the requestor; and

limiting a request for a second item by the requestor to an item associated with the identified back-end system.

2. The method of claim 1, further comprising establishing the profile, prior to the receiving step.

3. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

associating the requestor with a set of available items to request and with the set of back-end systems based on the location setting; and

providing the set of available items to the requestor, prior to the receiving step.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein the location setting comprises a geographic location and a requestor responsibility.

5. The method of claim 1, further comprising routing the request for the first item to the identified back-end system for processing.

6. The method of claim 1, further comprising receiving the request for the second item from the requestor.

7. The method of claim 6, further comprising displaying an error message if the second item is not associated with the identified back-end system.

8. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

    processing the request for the first item with the identified back-end system; and

    communicating with a supplier to obtain the first item.

9. A back-end data routing system, comprising:

an item display system for providing a set of available items to a requestor based on a location setting in a profile corresponding to the requestor; and

a selection system for receiving a request for a first item from the requestor and for identifying a back-end system from a set of back-end systems for processing the request, wherein the back-end system is identified based on the item and the location setting, and wherein a request for a second item by the requestor is limited to an item associated with the identified back-end system.

10. The system of claim 9, further comprising an association system for associating the requestor with the set of available items to request and with the set of back-end systems based on the location setting.

11. The system of claim 9, wherein the location setting comprises a geographic location and a requestor responsibility.

12. The system of claim 9, further comprising a communication system for routing the request for the first item to the identified back-end system for processing.

13. The system of claim 9, wherein the request system further receives the request for the second item from the requestor.

14. The system of claim 13, further comprising a messaging system for displaying an error message if the second item is not associated with the identified back-end system.

15. The system of claim 9, further comprising a profile system for establishing the profile.

16. The system of claim 9, wherein the group of back-end systems comprises a production procurement back-end system and a general procurement back-end system.

17. The system of claim 9, wherein the back-end system processes the request and communicates with a supplier to obtain the first item.

18. A program product stored on a recordable medium for back-end data routing, which when executed comprises:

program code for providing a set of available items to a requestor based on a location setting in a profile corresponding to the requestor; and

program code for receiving a request for a first item from the requestor and for identifying a back-end system from a set of back-end systems for processing the request, wherein the back-end system is identified based on the item and the location setting, and wherein a request for a second item by the requestor is limited to an item associated with the identified back-end system.

19. The program product of claim 18, further comprising program code for associating the requestor with the set of available items to request and with the set of back-end systems based on the location setting.

20. The program product of claim 18, wherein the location setting comprises a geographic location and a requestor responsibility.

21. The program product of claim 18, further comprising program code for routing the request for the first item to the identified back-end system for processing.

22. The program product of claim 18, wherein the program code for receiving further receives the request for the second item from the requestor.

23. The program product of claim 22, further comprising program code for displaying an error message if the second item is not associated with the identified back-end system.

24. The program product of claim 18, further comprising program code for establishing the profile.

25. The program product of claim 18, wherein the group of back-end systems comprises a production procurement back-end system and a general procurement back-end system.

26. The program product of claim 18, wherein the identified back-end system processes the request and communicates with a supplier to obtain the first item.